

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Snails and their trails have been the focus of the week. Sharing non-fiction books; we have found out about snails to answer some of the children's questions; why are snails slimy? Why do snails have shells? What do snails eat? Are they slugs when their shells come off? We have watched real snails leave a trail and eat leaves.

We have been on a bug hunt around the school grounds and collected materials to create our own bug hotel. **To continue to make our bug hotel even cosier, we would be grateful if you and your child could collect things like sticks, cones, old ceramic pots, logs with holes drilled into them, bundles of bamboo, bricks (with holes) and bring these in to school.**



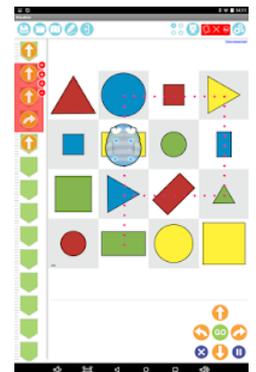
During maths sessions, we have explored using the Bee-bots. What is a Bee-Bot you might ask? It is programmable floor robot, the perfect starting point for teaching control, directional language and programming to young children. There are also free fabulous **Bee-bot and Blue-bot Apps TTS** that you can download onto a tablet to help your child practice and develop their skills in directional language and programming through sequences of **forwards, backwards, left and right turns**. We have even made our own mazes outside with crates and inside with lego!

Working on phase 4 in our funky phonic sessions, we have practised reading and spelling words with two letter sounds e.g. **oa ee ng** and letter blends "clusters" at the start; **float, steep, swing, scoop** and at the end; **pond, chimp, bench, paint**. We have also been practising reading the tricky words **what, when, out, there, were, little, one** as well as reading common decodable words such as **it's** and **children**. In addition we have worked on spelling the tricky words **you are all my her they he she we me be was**.

Chrissy from Wessex Conservation Grazing came into talk about the food that the hungry caterpillar ate. We had the opportunity to prepare and taste different fruits and vegetables and find out where our food comes from. We found out that we eat roots, stems, leaves and fruits.

#### Home learning challenge:

Explore the free Bee-Bot or Blue-Bot Apps TTS to help your child develop their skills in directional language and programming. Challenge your child to work through the levels. Remember to check which way the Bee-Bot is facing to decide whether to turn left or right. Please also take this opportunity to remind your child about keeping safe whilst using electronic devices.



The EYFS Ducklings' Team

We value our parents as partners. Please leave a comment on any aspect of your child's learning. Things they are enjoying, new learning that they may have shared with you or things that they may be finding tricky.

**My child's name:**

**Date:**